



# SHASTA COUNTY

## BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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August 3, 1999

Lester Snow, Executive Director  
CAL/FED BAY-DELTA PROGRAM  
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1155  
Sacramento CA 95814

### Subject: Responsible Land Acquisition for Environmental Purposes

Dear Mr. Snow:

The Shasta County Board of Supervisors wishes to go on record in strong support of the policy statement recently adopted by the Northern California Water Association (NCWA) which encourages CALFED and other similar water management programs to pursue responsible land acquisition for environmental purposes. A copy is enclosed with this letter for your information and use.

As we are all aware, water issues have become increasingly important as the state grows in population. Water is, in every sense, the life-blood of our communities. There is growing concern with the large amount of agricultural land being acquired in the Sacramento Valley for environmental purposes, and the manner in which it is being acquired. The newly adopted policy statement of the NCWA outlines a strategy for addressing these important issues. It offers guidance on how we can work together to ensure that landowners, water suppliers, and rural communities in Northern California will benefit from CALFED and other similar programs.

It is vital that we protect and restore California fish and wildlife species and their habitat. It is equally important that local control be maintained over issues which directly impact Northern California, such as water supply, drainage, flood control, river and stream bank protection and other services to area landowners. We strongly urge that these issues be fully addressed before CALFED issues a record of decision. We look forward to working with you on a long-term water policy which will benefit not just certain regions or special interest groups, but which will nourish and sustain the natural resources, as well as the economy, of the entire state.

Sincerely,

GLENN E. HAWES, Chairman  
Shasta County Board of Supervisors

c: Donald R. Bransford, Chairman  
NCWA Board of Directors  
Attachment/GEH/HDL/cbr